GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:544
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
INDIRA VIKAS PATRA AND KISAN VIKAS PATRA
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the instances of malpractices/ frauds in the issue of Indira Vikas Patra / Kisan VikasPatra have been noticed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last one year; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard? *********

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)
(a) Yes Sir. In the last few years, a number of instances of malpractices/frauds in the issue of Indira Vikas Patras have been noticed by the Government with the following break-up :- Year No. of Instances

1996-97	08
1997-98	12
1998-99	18

(b) There has been no reported case in the year 1999-2000.
(c) The following corrective actions have been taken by the Department :-
(1) The Department of Posts has circulated the numbers and seriesof the savings certificates lost in transit from the custody of Railways till date to all the post offices in the country so as to guard against their fraudulent issue and subsequent encashment from any of the post offices.

(2) Department has also informed Reserve Bank of India (RBI) about the complete details of the lost certificates so that RBI in turn can circulate the series numbers to various nationalised, cooperative and private banks in the country for averting fraudulent issue and pledging of these certificates to get loans from the banks.

(3) The matter has also been reported to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) which is actively investigating the case of fraudulent issue and subsequent encashment of these saving certificates from different parts of the country .

(4) Department has circulated instructions from time to time to all the circles and post offices to guard against fraudulent issue and payment in saving certificates. The staff has also been directed to strictly follow the laid down the procedures and rules while issuing and discharging the saving certificates.

(5) Government has discontinued the issue of Indira Vikas Patras from 16th August, 1999.

(6) 37 of the departmental officials have been proceeded against for imposition of major penalty.